IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Linda-S. Mansfield, Mary Rossano, Alice Murph

re application of: and Ruth Vrable

Application No.: 0 9 / 513,086 1632 Group No.:

Examiner: J. Wiotach 2000 February 24

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HORSES

2001 Assistant Commissioner for Patents

shington, D.C. 20231

MAY 2 4 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900 REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) (37 C.F.R. 1.114)

In the hereby requests continued examination, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. for the above identified application.

WARNING: 35 U.S.C. 132(b) and § 1.114 provide for the continued examination of an application and not examination of a continuing application). Accordingly, the Office will not permit an applicant to obtain continued examination on the basis of claims that are independent and distinct from the claims previously claimed and examined. Notice of March 10, 2000, 65 Fed Reg 14865, at 14868.

WARNING: A continued examination request cannot be made if at least one office action under 35 U.S.C. 132 or a notice of allowance under 35 U.S.C. 161 has not been mailed. The provisions of 37 CFR 1.114 also do not apply (1) to a provisional application, an application for a utility or plant patent filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a); (2) an international application filed under 35 U.S.C. 363 before June 8, 1995; (3) a patent under reexamination or (4) an application for a design patent. 37 CFR 1.114(d).

NOTE: There is no limit to the number of times the fee for continued examination may be submitted. Notice of March 10, 2000, 65 Fed Reg 14865, at 14868.

Unlike a continuation application, a continued examination request can utilize the mailing procedure NOTE: of 37 CFR 1.8. See 37 CFR § 1.8(a)(2)(I)(A).

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory; Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

☑ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) with sufficient postage as first class mail. 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 *

as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No.EF232834491US (mandatory)

TRANSMISSION

☐ facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (70

Date: 5/07/01

Peggy L. Casper

(type or print name of person certifying)

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SSANDARA



TIME REQUEST IS BEING MADE

| 2. | This | request is being submitted (check appropriate item(s) below): |
|------|-------------|--|
| i | X | Prior to abandonment of the application |
| ii. | | Payment of the issue fee |
| | | ☐ Prior to payment of issue fee |
| | | ☐ Issue fee has been paid but a petition under § 1.313 has been granted |
| iii. | . 🗆 | Prior to a decision on appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals & Interferences |
| | | ☐ A notice is being separately sent to the Board of Patent Appeals & Interferences that this Request for Continued Examination is being filed. |
| NC | OTE: I | f such a notice is not sent to the Board then may refuse to vacate a decision rendered after the filing of the RCE but before recognition by the Office of the RCE request under § 1.114. |
| iv. | . 🗆 | Appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Federal Circuit under 35 U.S.C. 145 or ☐ Commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. 146 |
| | | ☐ Prior to the filing of such appeal or commencement of civil action |
| | | ☐ Such appeal or commencement of civil action has been terminated |
| | | ENCLOSURES |
| 3. | Enclo | sed herewith is/are: |
| WA | RNING | 3: If reply to a final or non-final Office action under 35 U.S.C. 132 is outstanding, the submission must meet the reply requirements of § 1.111. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(b). |
| | An | information disclosure (37 C.F.R. § 1.98) |
| | | Form PTO-1449 (PTO/SB/08A and 08B) |
| X | An | amendment |
| | Ne | w arguments |
| | Nev | w evidence in support of patentability |
| | Oth | ner: |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | FEE FOR REQUEST (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)). |
| L 7 | This a | pplication is on behalf of: |
| | (3) | Small entity (and status is still as small entity) \$355.00 |
| | | Other than a small entity |
| | 22 | |
| | | Continued Prosecution Request Fee \$_710 |
| | | • |

FEE FOR CLAIMS

NOTE: "The fee for continued examination under § 1.114 (§ 1.17(e)) does not include additional claims fee (cf. 1.53 (d)(3)(ii))." See Notice of March 10, 2000, 65 Fed Reg 14865, at 14868.

37 CFR 1.53(d)(3): "The filing fee for a continued prosecution application filed under this paragraph is:

(i) The basic filing fee as set forth in § 1.16; and

Any additional § 1.16 fee due based on the number of claims remaining in the application after entry of any amendment accompanying the request for an application under this paragraph and entry of any amendments under § 1.116 unentered in the prior application which applicant has requested to be entered in the continued prosecution application."

5. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

| | (Col. 1) | | (Col. 2) | | (| Col. 3) | SMALL ENTITY | | | OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY | | |
|--------|----------|--|----------|------|------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| | | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER MENDMENT | | P | GHEST NO. REVIOUSLY PAID FOR | | RESENT EXTRA | RATE | ADDIT. FEE | | RATE | ADDIT. FEE |
| TOTAL | • | 21 | MINUS | ** | 50 | = | -0- | x\$9= | \$ | | x\$18= | \$ -0- |
| INDEP. | • | 4 | MINUS | *** | 17 | = | -0- | x\$40= | \$ | | x\$80 = \$ | \$ -0- |
| □FIRST | PRI | ESENTATION | OF MULT | IPLE | DEP. CLAIM | | | +\$135= | \$ | | +\$270=\$ | -0- |
| | | | | | | | ADI | TOTAL DIT. FEE | \$ | OR | TOTAL ADDIT. FEE \$ | -0- |

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.
- ** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
 - If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

 The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

WARNING: See 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

(complete (c) or (d), as applicable)

(c) M No additional fee is required.

OR

| (d) | | Total | additional | fee | required | is | \$ | |
|-----|--|-------|------------|-----|----------|----|----|--|
|-----|--|-------|------------|-----|----------|----|----|--|

(Request for Continued Examination (RCE) (37 C.F.R. § 1.114) [9-64]—page 3 of 5)

EXTENSION OF TIME

| (If an extension of time is appropriate complete (| (a) or | (b), | as applicable) |
|--|--------|------|----------------|
|--|--------|------|----------------|

| 6. The proceedings herein a § 1.136(a) apply. | re for a patent applicati | on, and the provision | ons of 37 C.F.R |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| (a) Applicant petitions 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a | for an extension of tim)(1)-(4), for the total num | e, the fees for which the check the | ch are set out in cked below: |
| Extension for (months) one month two months three months four months | Fee for other than small entity \$ 110.00 \$ 390.00 \$ 890.00 \$ 1,390.00 | Fee for small entity \$ 55.00 \$ 195.00 \$ 445.00 \$ 695.00 | |
| If an additional extension o | | e consider this a pe | etition therefor. |
| (check an | d complete the next iter | n, if applicable) | |
| paid therefor of | or months has of \$ onths of extension now Extension fee d | is deducted from the | ne total fee due |
| • | OR | | |
| conditional petition | that no extension of tile and authorization to pay applicant has inadvertent on of time. | y the necessary fee | s to provide for |
| | TOTAL FEE(S) DU | E | · |
| WARNING: The fee for continued | examination under § 1.114 m | ay not be deferred. 37 C | C.F.R. § 1.53(f). |
| 7. The total fee(s) due is/are: | | | 710 |
| Continued Prosecution | Fee (§ 1.17(e)) | | \$ 710 |
| Fee(s) for additional cla | ms (if any) (§ 1.16(b)-(d) |) | \$ |
| Extension of time fee (if | any) (§ 1.17(a)(1)-(4)) | | \$0_ |
| | | Total Fee(s) Due | \$ \cdot 710 |
| | | | |

PAYMENT OF FEE(S) DUE

| 8. Pleas | se pay the fee(s) for this cont | tinued examination application as | follows: |
|----------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| [3] | Check is attached for the | sum of | \$ 710 |
| | Charge Account | the sum of | \$ |
| | Charge Credit Card the sur | m of | \$ |
| | (Credit Card Payment Form | n (PTO-2038) attached) | |
| Please § 1.17(a)(| | tional fee(s) for § 1.17(e), § 1. | .16(b)-(d) and/or |
| X | Account13-0610 | | • |
| | Credit Card (Credit Card Pa | ayment Form (PTO-2038) attached | d). |
| • | in | VENTORSHIP | |
| | Any change of inventors must be via 0, 2000, 65 Fed Reg 14865, at 1480 | the procedure set forth in 37 CFR § 1.48. 58. | See Notice of March |
| 9. This a | application as amended name | es as inventors: | |
| X | the same inventors as previ | iously designated for the claims. | |
| | | eviously designated ans a stateme of the name or names of the person ention now being claimed. | |
| | a person not named previous \$ 1.48 is/has separately: | usly as an inventor and a petition] being filed been filed | under 37 C.F.R. |
| | DEFERRA | L OF EXAMINATION | |
| | A request for deferral of examination. | mination accompanies this reque | st for continued |
| | | 9 | P |
| Reg. No.: | 20,931 | SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER | |
| | | Ian C. McLeod | |
| Tel. No.: (| 517)347-4100 | (type or print name of practitioner) | |
| | | 2190 Commons Parkw | <i>y</i> ay |
| Customer | No.: 21036 | P.O. Address | |
| 0.0000,101 | | Okemos, Michigan | 48864 |

(Request for Continued Examination (RCE) (37 C.F.R. § 1.114) [9-64]—page 5 of 5)